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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/661,759 | 09/12/2003 | Dennis W. Anderson | 51753.00 | 8154 |

1726 7590 01/19/2006

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| EXAMINER |
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HALPERN, MARK

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1731

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/661,759

Applicant(s)

ANDERSON, DENNIS W.

Examiner

Mark Halpern

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 27-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 27-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1) A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/6/2005, has been entered. Claims 1, 10, 27, 34, are amended, and new claims 36, 37, are offered for consideration.

Claims 1-14, 27-37 are under consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2) Claims 1-14, 27-37, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (6,189,237) in view of Anderson (6,207,020).

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 9, 14, 27-30, 33, 35-37: Mayer discloses an apparatus for treatment of a moving web. Web 1 is guided over dryer cylinder rolls 11 on permeable belt 5 and over vacuum guide roll 6, which is also web support element 4, said roll 6

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being located between rolls 11. The rolls are rotating rolls in the web travel direction 7. A high temperature boundary layer adjacent to the surface of the web is created due to the heat and moisture from the first dryer cylinder 11. On one side of web 1, a source of air with the assistance of guide element 3, creates a blanket of compressed air 2 to press or direct steam off the web. The guide element 3 (col. 5, lines 38-40) reads on air foil. Compressed air is emitted from nozzle openings. Vacuum means within perforated roll 6 is also utilized to withdraw high temperature and moisture from the web surface, thus is a source of cooling (Mayer, col. 5, line 23 to 38, and Figures 1-4). It would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, that the action of compressed air blowing from the nozzles and withdrawing high temperature and moisture from the web surface would remove a portion of a boundary layer adjacent to the surface of the web, and thus the system inclusive of the vacuum means be considered the claimed means for stripping away at least a portion of the boundary layer. Mayer does not disclose means for moistening the web. Moistening means are disclosed by Anderson (col. 9, line 49 col. 10, line 65 and Figure 7), where the moistening of the web by means of steam nozzles penetrates the web and increases the web moisture content. It would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Mayer and Anderson, because such a combination would improve the process of conditioning the web in the design of Mayer as disclosed by Anderson (Abstract).

Claim 3: Anderson discloses an apparatus for conditioning a web in a papermaking machine traveling between a dryer unit and a calender (Andersen, col. 9, line 49 col. 10, line 65 and Figure 7).

Claim 4: it would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, that a reel-up follows the calender in a papermaking machine.

Claims 8, 11-13, 31-32, 34: Air blowing nozzles 8 and 10 are disclosed by Myers. Nozzles 8 are positioned normal to the surface of the web. Nozzles 10 are positioned tangentially to the surface of the web. See Mayer, Figures 3, 4.

Claim 10: steam condensation is a method and not an apparatus limitation.

Response to Amendment

3) Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-14, 27-32, 35, rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mayer (6,189,237), is withdrawn in view of amended claims.

4) Claims 3-4, 9, 33, rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer in view of Anderson (6,207,020), is withdrawn in view of amended claims.

5) Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone number is 571-272-1190. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Halpern", with a stylized, flowing script.

Mark Halpern
Primary Examiner
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